

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 36 to page 4, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The formatting method according to one embodiment of the present invention allows the user to change the directly-assigned attributes of objects as easy as object attributes defined by a style. In particular, the user only has to edit the conversion style element, and the format of each object having a reference to the conversion style element is changed according to the edit. Hence, editing such a document is greatly enhanced and facilitated. In one embodiment, the conversion style elements created are reconvertible into the corresponding directly-assigned attributes.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 6 to line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In Fig. 3C, the program defined style is "Style:Standard." The conversion style elements are style element <2> Style:, which is a style element for the standard style with italic and bold, and style element <3> Style:, which is a style element for the standard style with underline. One method for performing operations 205 and 206 is presented in commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ~~09/xxx,xxx~~ 09/782,899, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SEPARATING CONTENT AND LAYOUT OF FORMATTED OBJECTS" of Michael Brauer, Matthias Breuer, and Christian Lippka, ~~(Attorney Docket No. P-4681US)~~, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. Upon completion of operation 206, processing transfers to name style element operation 207.